

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable reconsideration of this application as presently amended and in light of the following comments is respectfully requested. Claims 77-152 and 154-158 are pending, Claim 121 having been amended and Claim 153 having been canceled by way of the present amendment.

In the outstanding Office Action Claim 121 was objected to; Claim 153 was rejected under 35 USC §112, first paragraph; and Claims 77-78, 117 and 119 were rejected on obviousness-type double patenting grounds over co-pending application 08/952,993; and independent Claims 77, 117 and 119 indicated as containing allowable subject matter.

Applicants appreciatively acknowledge the identification of allowable subject matter.

In reply, Claim 121 has been amended to depend from Claim 120, as requested in the outstanding Office Action.

Claim 153 has been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer.

Since the double patenting rejection is a provisional double patenting rejection, it is not appropriate for applicants to file at this time a Terminal Disclaimer. However, once co-pending application Serial No. 08/952,993 issues as a patent, applicants agree to file a Terminal Disclaimer in the subject application so as to overcome the double patent rejection.

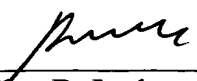
Consequently, in view of the present amendment and in light of the foregoing comments, it is respectfully submitted that the invention defined by the present claims is patentable. Accordingly, a Notice of Allowability is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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